


The
THE FAMILY LAW SECTION
respectfully submits the following position on:

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SB 477

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The Family Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan itself, but rather a Section which members of the State Bar choose voluntarily to join, based on common professional interest.

The position expressed is that of the Family Law Section only and is not the position of the State Bar of Michigan. To date, the State Bar of Michigan does not have a position on this matter.

The total membership of the Family Law Section is approximately 2,675.

The position was adopted after review and discussion by the Family Law Section's Council. The number of members in the decision-making body is 21. The number who voted in favor to this position was 17. The number who voted opposed to this position was 0.



Report on Public Policy Position

Name of Section:

Family Law Section

Contact Person:

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Email:

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Bill Number:

SB 477 (Jansen) Family law; child custody; child custody disputes that have been arbitrated; require courts to resolve in accordance with domestic relations arbitration provisions of the RJA. Amends sec. 4 of 1970 PA 91 (MCL 722.24).

Date position was adopted:

May 5, 2007

Process used to take the ideological position:

Position adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting

Number of members in the decision-making body:

21

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

17 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

4 Did not vote

Position:

Support

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:

SB 476 and SB 477 are designed to fix the Domestic Relations Arbitration Act so that it would work the way that it was originally intended to work. SB 477 allows the Court to consider an arbitration award regarding custody, parenting time or child support when making its determination. The Council supports this bill.

The text (may be provided by hyperlink) of any legislation, court rule, or administrative regulation that is the subject of or referenced in this report:

<http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2007-SB-0477>